



City and County of San Francisco
Department on the Status of Women



London N. Breed
Mayor

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 25, 2022

Working at the intersection of health, safety, socioeconomics, politics and gender, the Department on the Status of Women has an expanded portfolio that prioritizes improving the whole lives of women, girls and nonbinary people through three core service areas: Health and Safety, Economic Security and Civic Engagement and Political Empowerment.

With a focus on its three core service areas, the Department seeks to rebuild itself as the City's Watch Dog and Accountability Partner on all issues related to gender parity; Chief Advocate for equity in service delivery, employment opportunities, leadership development and budget allocation; and Master Convener - bringing people together inside and outside the City to collaborate on ideas, strategy and impactful action to help San Francisco transform into a fully gender equitable City.

Reorganized and reimagined to meet this post-Roe moment, today's Department on the Status of Women is one that is human-centered, informed by data and infused with confidence, conviction and clarity of purpose.

The items below reflect the Department's work towards building a more diverse and efficient San Francisco City and County government through gender-responsive and racially equitable policies and programs.

I. EXECUTIVE

N/A

II. ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS

a. Fiscal

The Department has been working on the design of our FY 23-24 and FY 24-25 budgets. The Department's goals are to advance the progress that we have made and maintain the momentum that we have built in the last two fiscal years. The Department strives to fulfill the needs of the organization and the communities that we serve while meeting the required General Fund reductions requested by the Mayor's Budget Office--\$687,707 and \$1,100,331 in FY 23-24 and FY24-25, respectively. We will be presenting a draft of our budget at today's Commission meeting for public comments.

III. **COMMISSION**

a. **Winter Commission Retreat**

Earlier this month, the Commission gathered for their Winter Retreat. Department staff each presented on their projects and programs. Commissioners reviewed the Department's updated Executive Summary, draft updated (FY2023-2025) Strategic Plan, amended Bylaws and draft updated Mission & Vision Statements. Lastly, the Commissioners participated in DEI exercises to ensure the work of the Commission and the Department are grounded in diversity, equity and inclusion.

IV. **COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

a. **Policy Summit Save-the-Date**

Last week, the Department released an official Save-the-Date for San Francisco's Inaugural Women's Policy Summit titled "Shi(f)t Happens23," which will take place on April 13, 2023.

The Department asks that Commissioners help us spread the word by sharing on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [TikTok](#). Commissioners can also check out the announcement that went out via [newsletter](#) and the video posted to our [YouTube](#).

V. **PROGRAMS, POLICY & REPORTING**

a. **Strategic Initiatives**

Sunday, January 22, 2023, marked what would have been the 50th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling. In preparation for this historic date, the Department hosted a press conference with Mayor Breed earlier today to publicly announce the launch of the San Francisco Bay Area Abortion Rights Coalition (BAARC), the first ever regional collective of local governments and reproductive health and justice stakeholders across nine counties to coordinate a joint response to immediate, long-term and unanticipated impacts of the Dobbs decision.

Representatives from the Board of Supervisors along with members of BAARC, including members of this Commission joined the press conference to demonstrate their strong, unwavering commitment to women and to ensure abortion care access in the post-Roe landscape. Other notable attendees who joined the Mayor and Director Ellis included California Commission on the Status of Women Executive Director Holly Martinez, the Office of San Francisco Supervisor Dean Preston, San Francisco District Attorney Brooke Jenkins, San

Francisco City Administrator Carmen Chu, Contra Costa District Attorney Diana Becton and Planned Parenthood of Northern California.

b. Health & Safety

Earlier this month the Department held mid-year performance evaluation check-ins with gender-based violence portfolio grantees. This check in was an opportunity for grantees to share updates about their programs with the Department and a space to share where support is needed. The Department appreciated this time to learn more about the critical work that our grantees do every day in the communities we serve.

c. Economic Security

Site visits are underway for shelters and transitional housing facilities within the gender-based violence portfolio. The Department visited San Francisco Safehouse, which provides survivor-centered transitional housing and services to women who are experiencing housing instability and sexual exploitation or trafficking.

d. Civic Engagement & Political Empowerment

She the People and DOSW are working together on a storytelling project to tell the stories of four women of color leaders in San Francisco through a filmed 4-episode YouTube series. The Department is happy to announce that She the People has concluded its filming of the *Gotta See It To Be It* YouTube series highlighting California Controller Malia Cohen, Mayor London Breed, Supervisor Myrna Melgar and Administrator Carmen Chu and is moving into the post-production stage. The video series itself is part of the *Step Into Your Power* campaign that will debut across social media in the first quarter of 2023 (February-March), coinciding with Women's History Month and leading up to San Francisco's Inaugural Women's Policy Summit.

e. SF SOL Collaborative

The SF SOL (Safety, Opportunity and Lifelong Relationships) Collaborative continues to develop a continuum of care for youth involved in or at risk of commercial sexual exploitation.

The project has finalized the first phase and has executed a new contract with the California Department of Social Services that started January 1, 2023. The recently developed contract will include all the components of the first phase and, as well as a new low-barrier placement for youth called the Youth Stabilization Pathway.

Finally, the Department attended the Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month Press Conference hosted by the San Francisco Collaborative against Human Trafficking (SFCAHT).

f. **Department of Justice, Office of Violence Grant**

The Department is working to submit the Semi-Annual Progress Report and the quarterly Federal Financial Report to the Department of Justice. We continue to work with John Hollway, Executive Director of the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania, and community members to finalize and disseminate the SF Domestic Violence Death Review Team report. Additionally, the Department continues to support the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) in their efforts to produce final training materials for officer training.

g. **Blue Shield Foundation Grant**

The HEALing Roots Collaborative has submitted the application for the next cycle of funding from Blue Shield Foundation of California. As this cycle of funding comes to a close, the Collaborative is working together to envision new and innovative avenues to address the root causes of domestic violence in our communities and ensure that ever-increasing quality of care is provided to survivors through this collaboration.

VI. **RESEARCH & DATA/ PROJECTS, STRATEGIC LEARNING & CAPACITY BUILDING**

a. **Research & Data**

As the leading agency for the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking, the Department will release an updated Human Trafficking in San Francisco report this month. This report relies on data collected from multiple community-based organizations and criminal justice organizations and will discuss the prevalence of human trafficking in San Francisco, as well as demographic, typology and service-based information surrounding survivors and traffickers. This report recommends a rebuilding of our data collection network and organization, as well as reimagining what information we collect; this includes shifting from only capturing what is being done for survivors to what survivors might need to help cover service gaps.

The Department has been working with ShelterTech to evaluate the performance of its grants using information gathered in our quarterly reporting system. This cooperative project will finish this month and will allow the Department to more thoroughly analyze how the dollars it is putting into its grants translate into the services we wish to fund.

The Department is also in the final stages of data collection for multiple other projects, including the Family Violence Council report and the even year Gender Analysis of Public Art, Streets, Buildings, and Parks.

VII. **GENERAL UPDATES**

N/A

VIII. **SPECIAL EVENTS, ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

IX. **CALENDAR**

February

Wednesday, February 8

Monday, February 20

Commission Meeting

OFF: President's Day

March

Wednesday, March 22

Commission Meeting